Lake County Sheriff's Office

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John D. Idleburg
Sheriff

MEDIA RELEASE

Sheriff's Detectives Conclude Investigation of Man Who Recorded Multiple Unsuspecting Nude People, Including Children

Lake County Sheriff's Detectives concluded a child pornography investigation, which led to a Lake County Grand Jury Indictment of 15 felony counts.

In August of 2021, Lake County Sheriff's Deputies met a victim who had been unlawfully video recorded at a residence in the 371000 block of Loretto Avenue in Unincorporated Lake Villa.

The victim reported to sheriff's deputies, while living with a family friend, Wilbur J. Maltby, 51, at the home on Loretto Avenue, she found a strange device plugged into an outlet in the bathroom. The device resembled a charging cube, commonly used to charge electronics, but a closer examination of the device revealed it appeared to contain a hidden camera. The victim dissembled the device and found there was a memory card inside of it. An inspection of the contents of the memory card revealed nude footage of her and others inside the bathroom of the home. The victim called the sheriff's office upon seeing what was contained on the memory card.

On November 9, 2021, sheriff's detectives conducted a search warrant at Maltby's residence. Sheriff's detectives seized multiple electronic devices, including devices with electronic storage. Maltby was initially charged on November 9, 2021, with two counts of unlawful video recording at a residence.

The Lake County Sheriff's Office Cybercrime Division conducted an analysis on the devices seized during the search warrant, which revealed numerous photos and videos of nude individuals and manufactured child pornography, recorded at three different locations. Further investigation revealed Maltby was responsible for recording the nude images and videos of both children and adults.

Following the examination of the electronics seized during the search warrant and additional investigation, the Lake County State's Attorney's Office presented several additional charges to the Lake County Grand Jury.

On January 19, 2022 the Lake County Grand Jury returned indictments for Maltby on the following charges:

Three counts of manufacturing child pornography (class X felonies)

Seven counts of possession of child pornography (two class 1 felonies, three class 2 felonies, two class 3 felonies)

Five counts of unauthorized video recording (1 class 3 felony, four class 4 felonies)

Sheriff John D. Idleburg said, "Our detectives did a terrific job thoroughly investigating this incident, which ultimately led to positively identifying nine additional victims. Due to their diligence, our detectives have been able to provide the first steps of justice for the identified victims."

Maltby is next due in court on January 24, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

All defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.

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